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A Culinary Journey

Cover Photograph by:
Lauren Woods, Mud & Magnolias



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Ride for Scholarships



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Save The

ALUMNI TAILGATE
President's Pregame Tailgate
September 1st

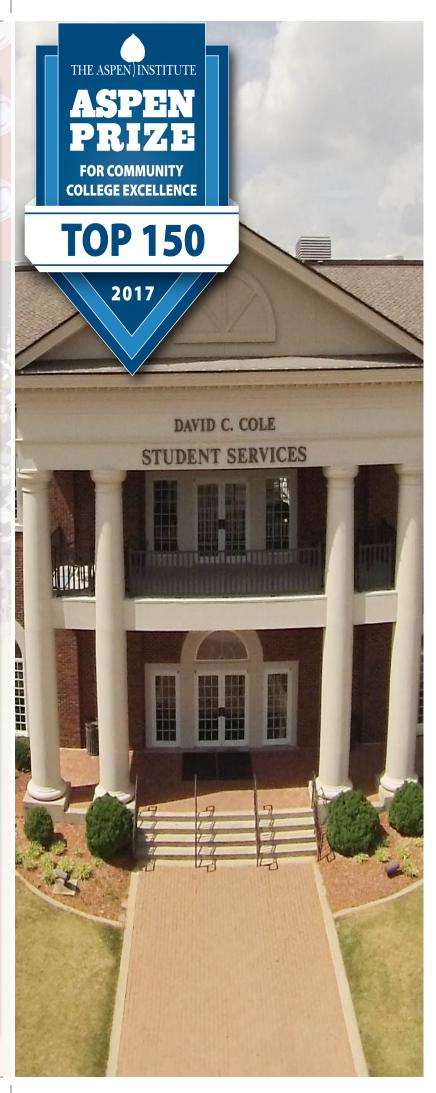
MILITARY APPRECIATION

September 22nd

Sophomore Night HS Junior & Senior Night October 13th

HOMECOMING October 22nd





CONNECTION

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Follow us on:













Where has the time gone since we shared the last issue of Connection? Although it's been only a few months, Itawamba Community College has received another significant recognition.

Many students, faculty and staff members have been honored for their achievements, and the semester has passed in a blur with a multitude of activities and events.

For the third time, the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program selected ICC as one of the nation's

top 150 community colleges eligible to compete for the 2017 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and \$1

million in prize funds, the nation's signature commendation of high achievement and performance. ICC received the same recognition in 2013 and 2015. It is a tremendous honor and another indication of the success of the College and its exceptional faculty and staff.

Credit is certainly due to all members of the

ICC family who prepare thousands of students each year to achieve their life dreams and goals by providing a solid educational foundation.

Student success is ICC's priority and equipping those who choose to join us on their life journey is our mission.

In a few years the students who are taking advantage of ICC's opportunities today will be successful alumni and friends such as you. We value our continuing

connection. You have experienced "the best of the best."

We appreciate very much your loyalty and support of ICC through the Alumni Association and Foundation. Your generosity provides scholarships to enable future students to take advantage of opportunities to obtain two years of quality education and enable them to experience "the best of the best" as well.

I look forward to our continuing Connection.





MRE Caton



Alumni events often draw us back to ICC so that we can revisit a familiar place, enjoy lifelong traditions and the opportunity to reconnect with old friends. Often, this experience also leaves us struck by the enormous prosperity enjoyed by the College since our time as students!

Over the past year, we made it a priority to reenergize and clarify the purpose of the ICC Alumni Association in an effort to better serve as your voice to the College. We have raised more money, gained more members and provided more events than in years past! However, this is only the beginning.

Looking ahead requires the continued support of all of our alumni and friends. Your involvement and commitment helps us keep pace with our peer institutions in the competitive world of higher education and will ensure the vitality of ICC for

future generations of Indians. Our organization exists to unite alumni and magnify their impact at the College; in return, here are a few ways for you to help:

- · Join the Alumni Association, if you're not already a member.
- · If you're an annual member, consider upgrading to a Lifetime membership.
- · If you have friends or relatives who are also IJC/ICC alumni, urge them to join the Association.
- · Ask at least one other ICC alum or supporter to join.

Your membership provides you with a vast variety of benefits that are constantly growing, like our new worldwide hotel discount program through our friends at HotelStorm.com. This benefits your entire family!

Join your fellow Indians today with your membership to the Alumni Association. ICC is a special place, and ICC alumni can take great pride in being a part of it.

Director of Development

A Message to 2016 Graduates



Congratulations 2016 Graduates! Can you believe how fast your time at ICC has passed by? I am sure that this time has gone by much quicker than you ever expected. It is so hard to leave when you have made such close friendships during your time at ICC. The friendships you have made while at ICC can last a lifetime.

I encourage all of you to keep your connection to ICC by joining the ICC Alumni Association. There are many benefits of membership and there are several levels of membership available: per person, per couple, yearly or even a lifetime membership. The Alumni Association provides many opportunities for you to stay in touch with ICC via the alumni publications and special invitations

to events on campus.

Some recent events sponsored by the ICC Alumni Association include Homecoming 2015, Most Beautiful 2016 and the Alumni Breakfast honoring the 2016 graduates.

It is an honor to serve as your Alumni Association President and to spend time with other ICC graduates. To all IJC/ICC alums, if you have not joined the Alumni Association, I encourage you to join today. Your investment helps make Itawamba Community College the best!

I hope to see you soon. As always, Go Indians!

Monica Rowland Aldridge President, ICC Alumni Association 2014-2016

Out & About with ICC

Alumni Board Meeting

Alumni Board members and ICC Most Beautiful 2016, Alicia Tubb, enjoy dinner.

Alumni Board members Bill

Miles and Gary Walker.



Alumni Board member Joey Cox and President Mike Eaton



Alumni Board members Karen McFerrin and Robert Goza



Legislative Lunch

Representative Mac Huddleston and President Mike Eaton



Representative Mac Huddleston, Representative Preston Sullivan, Dr. Jan Reid-Bunch and Tyler Camp



President Mike Eaton, Representative Shane Aguirre and Senator Chad McMahan

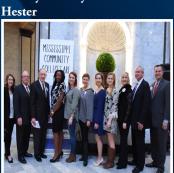
Capitol Day



ICC Faculty, Staff and PTK Students



Representative Steve Holland, Britney Smalley and Kate Hester



ICC faculty & students with Rep. Turner, Sen Wilemon, President Mike Eaton and Sen, McMahan



President Mike Eaton, Robin Lowe, Jada Mills, Senator Chad McMahan, Dr. Megan Eidt, NE President, Ricky



Dr. Megan Eidt and Rep Turner



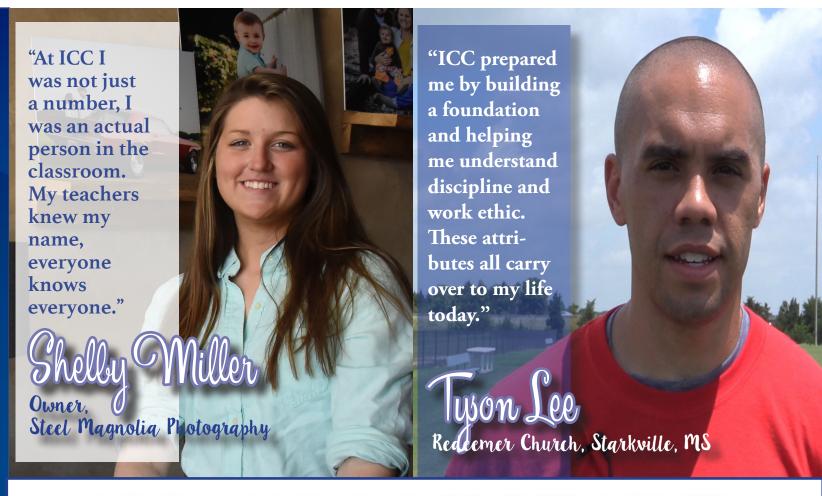
Machela Cooper, Katherine Tackitt, Britney Smalley and <u>Kate H</u>ester



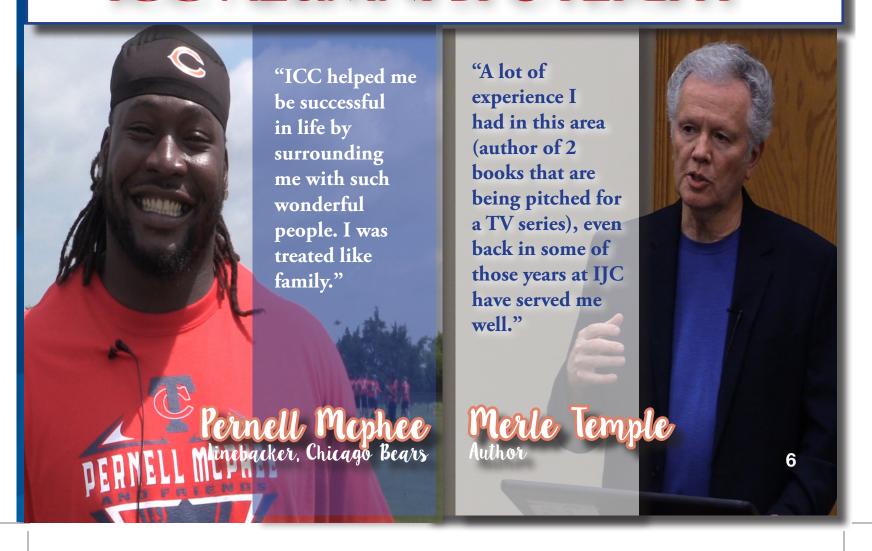
Senator McMahan and Dr. Jada Mills



Representative Jerry Turner, President Mike Eaton and Representative Jolly



ICC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

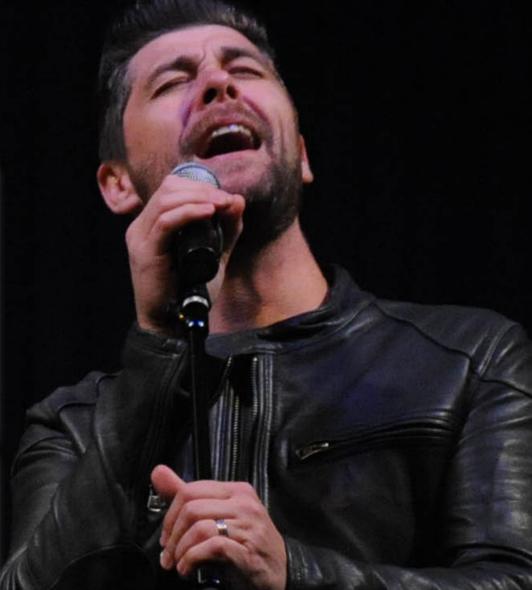


Christmas with Jason Crabb









The ICC Alumni Association sponsored Christmas with Jason Crabb on December 2 at the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Auditorium. Crabb is well-known as one of the most compelling voices in any genre of music. With his power, range and passion, he has moved easily among musical styles, including gospel, country, pop and southern gospel. The Alumni Association looks forward to providing more family-friendly events in the future.





9CC MOST DEFIUTIFUL 2016













For the first time in College history, the Most Beautiful Pageant 2016 was sponsored by the ICC Alumni Association. This longstanding tradition was held on March 7 to a sellout crowd in the W.O. Benjamin Fine Arts Auditorium. More than \$8,000 was raised for the Association with approximately 60 amazing young women competing in the Gatsby-themed event. After the evening wear competition, 28 Beauties were chosen. The group was narrowed to the top 10, and each contestant was asked an onstage question pertaining to her time at ICC, as the judges' made their nal decisions. The judges anel included ultiple ICC ums. ICC alum andice Pitts
nd the ICC Pom
quad provided
ntertainment or the night's estivities.

Congratulations to Alicia
Diann Tubb of
Mooreville, on
being selected as
Most Beautiful
2016. Alicia
will serve as
an ambassador
for the Alumni
Association
during the coming
year.

Alumni Breakfast

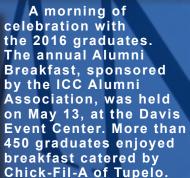










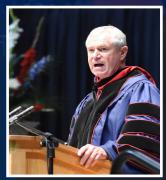


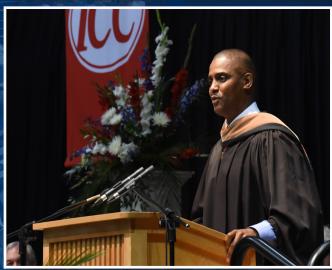




WELCOME TO CUR FAMILY











Two commencement ceremonies on May 14. Two speakers. Common advice.

Former Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck and Toyota executive Sean Suggs delivered addresses for the A.A. and A.A.S. ceremonies, respectively, and shared life advice with the more than 600 graduates.

Tuck challenged the A.A. graduates to aim high, be a person of integrity and honor and never mistake knowledge for wisdom. "I believe ICC prepared you well by providing the skills to shape the quality of your life and the lives of others."

Suggs advised the A.A.S. graduates, "For most of your decisions, follow your heart, your gut feeling. You're graduating from one of the top community colleges in the nation. Companies are looking for people with great attitudes and for graduates from ICC."

More than 1,300 graduates have earned degrees from ICC this year.

ourney a Culinary



Linkie Marais of Saltillo still remembers the ramen noodles she "cooked" at midnight during final exams at ICC when she was working toward her associate's degree in public relations

from 2002-04.

Today, she's an accomplished chef, lifestyle expert and TV personality who has a passion for living life to the

fullest.

A native South African who became a U.S. citizen last year, Marais began her

culinary journey in her mom's kitchen and continued when the family moved to Tupelo when she was in high school. She learned the art of cake decorating and catering while working for a local caterer, sparking her interest to pursue a degree in culinary arts at Mississippi University for Women, which she earned cum laude.

Marais was also an honor student at ICC, where she was on the president's and dean's lists and a member of Phi

Theta Kappa. "I have so many great memories from my days at ICC. There was always something to get involved in and so many activities that made it such a fun experience. I loved dancing on the dance line, CenterStage, choir and Indian Delegation," she said. "Okay, I remember it all and the ramen noodles at 12 at night during exams." In addition, she participated in pageants, was elected to the Hermannian Court and calcuted to the Homecoming Court and selected by the faculty to Who's Who Among

American Community College Students.
"A few years ago, I had the honor to go back to ICC and talk to the students, and it was humbling to see how eager they were to learn...I left there in tears as I felt blessed to have been a part of such a great school!" Marais said. "I had many mentors there that I cherish, including Mrs. (Karen) Davis, Mr. (W.E.) Boggs, Dean (Jan) Bunch and many more, but I will say that the two people who were truly part of shaping me as a person were Mrs. Betty and Dr. David

Cole. They are still dear friends of mine, and I will always be grateful for all the mentoring, coaching and love they showed me while I was at ICC and still to this day!

Marais went on to work in the Ole Miss

"ICC gave me the amazing scholarships that with hard work anything can be done."

catering department where her talents as a pastry chef were fully realized. She was much in demand for her beautiful and delicious wedding cakes, which led to a move to Boston. There Marais was recognized as a celebrated wedding cake artist, making cakes for the Kennedys as well as Frankie Valli (of The Four Seasons) and other celebrities.

In 2012, she competed against



thousands of other contestants to be on Food Network Star Season 8, and emerged with many loyal fans and followers. She also has been a Top **Chef Regional** Competition

Linkie was selected for the 2003 Homecoming Court.

winner. As a culinary partner of the Big Green Egg, Marais has travelled the country cooking and teaching on the EGG among other grills. She is a frequent

guest chef on local TV stations and a participant in food and wine festivals throughout the country as well as appearances on morning TV shows and cooking segments in Massachusetts,

Mississippi, Rhode Island, Georgia, Florida and Virginia. Currently she does

private chef events on yachts and in private homes, and she's working on a cookbook and more TV

appearances.



From ramen noodles during her ICC years to nationally recognized chef and wedding cake artist...Linkie Marais has definitely achieved magnificent success and a gratifying career, for which she credits the College. "There were many incentives at ICC to excel, and it gave me confidence to tackle challenges. ICC gave me amazing scholarships that taught me that with hard work anything can be done. Mrs. (Mary Sue) Boggs gave me the foundation for great public speaking that I utilize to this day. ICC prepared me by teaching me to be responsible for the outcome of the level of success achieved."

Linkie Marais is proof of the slogan, "start at ICC and go anywhere." Not only has she gone somewhere since 2004, but her career continues to offer opportunities to 'rub shoulders" with celebrities, but she's become a celebrity,





ALUMNI MEMBERS

DEATHS

Keith Pickens Thomas, Pontotoc, 10.12.15
Carey William Cates, Euless, Tex., 10.12.15
Frank Edward Humphrey, Ripley, 10.16.15
Larry D. Armstrong, Richmond, former chairman of the Communications Division/director of the Writing Center, 10.18.15
Carson Olivia Craig, Pontotoc, 10.20.15
Daniel Andrew Stewart, 11.2.15

Charles Ray Wardlaw, Okolona, 11.5.15
Frank C. Comer, Smithville, 11.7.15
Suzanne Mink McCaine, Brewer, 11.14.15
Julie Leonard Burks, Tupelo, 11.17.15
Andrew Thomas Fox, Amory, 11.22.15
Teresa Ann Senter, Tupelo, 12.1.15
Sandra Ford East, Caledonia, 12.5.15
Cy Williams, Fulton, retired faculty member, 12.5.15
Dallas Hayden Cole Martin, Houston, 12.6.15
Edward Earl "Elmo" Brim, Tupelo, 12.6.15
William Jacob Sheffield, Tupelo, 12.7.15
Margaret "Joan" Clark, Saltillo, 12.9.15
Darlene Fehlberg Hill, Plantersville, 12.12.15
Ray Hutcheson, Saltillo, 12.18.15
Fred D. (Freddie) Arnold, Becker, 12.19.15
Martha Ann Estes Gordon, Okolona, Alumni Board, 12.26.15
Dennis Ray Atkins Sr., Amory, 12.27.15
Gwendolyn Elaine Bowers, Tupelo, 12.29.15
Joe Nell Sheffield Wood, Dorsey, 1.1.16
John Virgil Monaghan, Baldwyn, 1.11.16
Howard Thomas Boozer, Amory, 1.11.16
Marcus P. Posey, Verona, 1.12.16
Anthony W. "Andy" Steward, Tupelo, 1.12.16
John Wesley Fowler, Saltillo, 1.14.16
Ruth McKee, Tupelo, 1.16.16
Helen Louise Hatley Loeffler, Leavenworth, Kan., 1.23.16
Billy Jefferson Morrow, Smithville, 1.24.16
The Rev. Thomas R. Sheffield, Algoma, 1.30.16
Christopher Boyce "Chris" Stallings, Okolona, 2.4.16
Craig Jones, Shannon, 2.16.16
Edward Morrison "Ed" Herring, Tupelo, 3.4.16
Kenneth "Kenny" Wayne Harris, Hatley, 3.4.16
E.J. Wideman, Amory, retired from the ICC maintenance department, 3.8.16
Clifton Luke Tubb, Hatley, 3.10.16
Bessie Grace Wiley Morgan, Aberdeen, 3.13.16
Edward Walker Burks, Amory, 3.24.16 Clifton Luke Tubb, Hatley, 3.10.16
Bessie Grace Wiley Morgan, Aberdeen, 3.13.16
Edward Walker Burks, Amory, 3.24.16
Aniya Monay Chardae Caldwell, Booneville, 3.25.16
Bonnie "Marie" Wood Beachum, Tupelo, 3.28.16
Charlene Senter, Fulton, 3.28.16
Jeanette Hooper Carr Winkler, Tupelo, RN instructor for 23
years, 3.29.16
Bobby Joe Butler, Nettleton, 4.7.16
Tommy Thornton, Amory, 4.8.16
Juleatha Yuhuntis Haynes, Tupelo, 4.13.16
John Lawrence Brantley, Tupelo, 4.23.16

WEDDINGS

Katherine Lee Rourke to Charles Casey Porter, 8.29.15
Alanta Jade Easley to Steven Tyler Goggins, 10.17.15
Charity Seless Stacy to Mark Covington Jr., 10.24.15
Erica Garner to John Oakes, 10.24.15
Keely Carol Naden to Dalton Scott McMillen, 10.24.15
Magen Shayne Faulkner to Shawn Vincent Hall, 10.24.15
Reisa Jean Holloway to Michael Allen Bishop, 10.24.15
Alexandria Rashall Bowen to Blake McCoy, 11.7.15
Emily Lauren Patterson to Dustin Lynn Edmonson, 11. 7.15
Amelia Lauren Brown to Willie Ben Patton III, 11.21.15
Katie Monique Wilson to Joshua Steven Rogers, 12.5.15
Shayla LeighAnn McNeese to Brandon Tyler Carter, 12.5.15
Alexis Nash to Charles Presley, 12.12.15
Alison Blake Hutchens to Dustin Paul Wood, 12.19.15
Carli Madison Reeder to Collin Dean Minga, 12.19.15
Kendra Moses to Kody Douglas Gray, 12.19.15
Hannah Kathryn Peeples to Carl Clifton Hanna III, 1.9.16
Kaitlyn Elise Cox to Forest Bradley Williams, 1.16.16
Hannah Abigail Ross to John Samuel Howell, 2.20.16
Valarie Joan Clifton to Brooks Joseph Crabtree, 3.4.16
Alexis Ann "Lexie" Williams to Jacob Hunter Glissen, 3.5.16
Caryl Sebastian Vogel to Elizabeth Day, 3.5.16
Haley Elaine Bustin to Christopher Aaron Barnes, 3.12.16
Mary Kelli Harrington to Clayton Barker Collier, 3.12.16
Hannah Elise Parchman to

Andrew Garmon Edwards, 3.12.16

Audrey Anna Roebuck to John Alexander Rowland, 3.19.16
Cassie Elizabeth Waycaster to Andrew Ceburn Gray, 4.2.16
Britney Phillips to Alex Gray, 4.9.16
Daynalee Faith Duff to Jeremy Andrew Ferguson, 4.16.16
Danielle Shae McCabe to Matthew Alan Bearden, 4.16.16
Anna Elizabeth Senter to James Andrew Graham, 4.16.16
Courtney Leigh Farris to Joshua Aaron Box, 4.16.16
Kristin Blake Daniels to Dustin Matthew Lunn, 4.21.16
Haley Marie Bishop to Joshua Lee Kemp, 4.30.16
Madison Benge to Johnathan Rish, 5.7.16
Laura Ansley Roye to Dalton Ryan Butler, 5.14.16
Leslie Karen East to Daniel Mitchell Springfield, 5.14.16
Kami Ann Roberts to Gunnar David Clark, 5.21.16



SNAPCHAT

CHIEFWINNEMAW



NEW LIFETIME ALUMNI MEMBERS 2015-2016

Benjamin Aldridge Martha Baker Terry Black Garry Boyd Jodie Boyd Matthew Convertino Bessie Lynn Crane Judy Griffie Debra Grisham Mary Kilgore

D. Livingston Erin Livingston Vaunita Martin Marcus McNutt James Moore Peyton Moore Martha Swindle Chester Tapscott Adria Ward Jeanette Winkler Martha Wivgul Shannon Woodward

NEW ANNUAL ALUMNI MEMBERS 2015-2016

William Atkins Charles Barnes Niquela Baylark Samantha Bouchillon Alexandria Bowen Darlene Braddock Brenda Brooks Jane Burns Daniel Cipkowski Dane Degraw Gary Dye Marcia Ewing Taylor Gosa Bonnie Green Ruble Green Sharon Herron Kenneth Holditch Peggy Hussey

Ernest Joyner Cory Lindsey Timothy Nichols Frank Norman Patricia Norman **Shelley Norris** Jim Patterson Weecy Patterson Paula Pittman Sandra Priest James Riles Sundra Sabine J.R. (Bo) Sandlin Melissa Sandlin Brian Sheffield Mike Todd Janice Tyler Jon Umfress Tony White

Retirement Reception 2016



2016 Retirement Reception



Brian Gillentine



Jerry Senter and President Mike Eaton



Dr. Tasha Thames



Coach Paul Johnson



Jerene Fikes

From the Foundation



The Itawamba Community College Foundation is committed to providing financial support to Itawamba Community College to keep pace with the ever-changing world of education and technology, as well as to maintain its position as the premier community college in Mississippi.

ICC was awarded the distinction of being listed as the sixth best Community College in the United

States in 2015. Factors such as tuition costs and the availability of no-cost tuition were significant in achieving this status. ICC's tuition has been consistently ranked among the lowest offered by Mississippi's 15 community colleges. More than 80 percent of ICC students receive some type of scholarship or financial aid. Students have the latest technology, advanced classrooms, modern buildings, athletic facilities and dorms in a beautifully landscaped campus. More importantly our students have qualified, caring instructors and receive personal attention, the two main ingredients for a quality education and college success. Itawamba Community College was named as one of the 50 Most Affordable Colleges in the United States by AffordableColleges.com in 2015.

ICC is unparalleled in providing flexible programs for both the traditional and non-traditional student. With three locations, extensive scheduling which includes, day, night, weekend, afternoon or online for which we are the state's largest provider, there is something for everybody

who wishes to attend college.

A significant component of Itawamba Community College's mission is providing affordable and accessible education. The Foundation is charged with assisting the College to fulfill this mission by providing financial support through fund raising efforts. School year 2015-2016 fund raising events began with a very successful 20th annual Bluegrass Concert at the Davis Event Center in Fulton. This event was followed by another successful third annual Tour de Tanglefoot Trail Foundation Bike Ride for scholarships from Pontotoc to Houston.

Support from our business partners and friends.
Faculty and staff of ICC along with the active participation of our Foundation Board and their businesses and personal gifts have made possible another outstanding year for the students, staff and faculty of Itawamba Community College.

Your investment in education is needed today.

We, the Itawamba Community College family, appreciate any contribution. Your gift may be unrestricted and used where it is needed most or it may be designated for a particular area or program of interest. Your opportunity to "Transform Lives and Inspire Success" is now.

> Rayburn Parks, President ICC Foundation



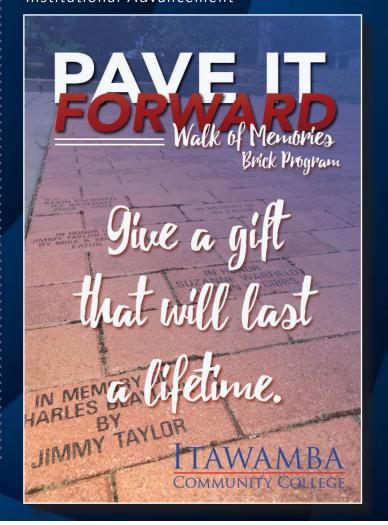
2016 has been an exciting and busy year for the Foundation from our May Board Meeting to our third annual Tanglefoot Bike Ride for scholarships this spring which raised much needed funds for scholarships for the College.

The College also hosted the 20th annual Gospel/Bluegrass Concert in March at the Davis Event Center in Fulton. The proceeds from this outstanding event will be utilized by the ICC Foundation.

Thank you again for your continued support of Itawamba Community College and the Foundation. Because of your generosity, the students of the future can benefit from scholarships, programs and services of the college.

As always, we welcome your visits, calls, comments, suggestions and ideas as we continue to strive to make the Itawamba Community College Foundation the best.

Jim Ingram, Director of Institutional Advancement



20th Annual Bluegrass Concert











The 20th annual Bluegrass Concert raised more than \$50,000 for the ICC Foundation, Inc., funds that will be used for scholarships to benefit current and future students. The Mar. 5 concert at the Davis Event Center featured Gene Watson, Rhonda Vincent, Dailey & Vincent and Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver. Each year, faculty, staff and students provide volunteer service for the event. Next year's concert has been scheduled for Mar. 4.









3rd Annual Tanglefoot Bike Ride



Itawamba Community College's Foundation and scholarships were the beneficiaries of the third annual "Bike for Scholarships," which was held April 30 in Pontotoc. Approximately 40 cyclists participated.

Corporate sponsors include the following: TVA, Ferguson Plumbing, TM Health Associates, Coca-Cola, McCarty Architects, WoodmenLife, First Choice Bank, FL Crane & Sons, J&B Services and HM Richards. Whistle Stop Sponsors include the following: Pontotoc Electric Power Association, Bobby and Wanda Barnes, Hill & Trail Bicycle Company, AT&T, Weatherall's, Montgomery Enterprises, Community Bank, Montgomery Drugs, Renasant Bank, Farmers & Merchants Bank and Chickasaw Equipment Company.



Donald A. Baker Endowed Scholarship



Don Baker of Amory celebrated his 80th birthday this year, but Itawamba Community College's students will benefit for years to come.

As a special gift, his family and friends endowed the Donald A. Baker Endowed Scholarship, which will also recognize his 30 years of service to the College.

That service includes more than 20 years as a member of the ICC Board of Trustees and more than 25 years as a member of

the Foundation Board.

"My sister, Beth (A.A.
'85) and I had no trouble getting participation from friends and family," said Baker's son, also named Don (A.A. '81). "Everyone knows how much Daddy

loves ICC! More than 80 friends and family members contributed to help endow the scholarship."

Full-time
students from
Monroe County
who have financial
need and who
demonstrate
potential for
success in college
are eligible to
apply for the halftuition scholarship.

Baker, who was named ICC's Alumnus of the Year in 1988, attended IJC from 1954-56. A commerce major, he was baseball manager, reporter for the **Future Business Leaders of** America and a member of the Future Teachers of America. Before his retirement, he served as executive vice president of operations for the American Funeral Assurance Company. He is a member of the Amory First Baptist Church where he is a deacon and involved in Sunday School outreach. Baker was a member and chairman of the personnel committee of the Monroe County Baptist Association, which he served on for more than 20 years. He retired as a CW4 with more than 38 years of service with the

U.S. Army Reserve. His extensive civic involvement has included Amory Chamber of Commerce and Amory Railroad Festival past president. Baker also served as director of the Amory/North Monroe Chamber of Commerce/ **Economic Development** Corporation until the board of directors could hire a permanent manager. He has been a Mason for more than 50 years and was chairman of the cemetery committee of the Amory Masonic Cemetery, where his family did all of the development work of the new section. Baker worked with the Amory Fire Department/North Monroe County Ambulance Service for more than 30 years and was an EMT for more than 25 years. He also opened and managed an Amoco Food Shop until a permanent manager could be employed.

In addition to his son, Baker's family includes his wife, Martha, and daughter, Beth Livingston. Two of his grandchildren, Dr. Carlisle Livingston (A.A. '07) and Reagan Livingston (A.A. '14), now a senior at Mississippi State University, are ICC

graduates.

GVE ONLINE TODAY





www.iccms.edu

Student Spotlight

Chauncey Leighton Brant Mullins was born in Tupelo, and is the son of Jim and Tammy Renick and the late Bill Mullins. He graduated in 2014 from Tupelo Christian Preparatory School, While at ICC he has been involved with the Baptist Student Union, Phi Theta Kappa, Student Government Association, yearbook staff, Indian Delegation, LIN Report (Live Indian News) and intramural sports. Chauncey plans to attend the University of Mississippi and major in integrated marketing communications.





Alumni Lauren Ann Cobb and Brandy Davis join the panel of judges for the 2016 Most Beautiful Pageant.



Chad McCoy, '11 and Tyler Camp,'12, both SGA former presidents host the 2016 Indian Idol.

ICC'S BASS FISHING CLUB

Last summer, two ICC students had an idea to organize a bass fishing club for students to participate in competitive tournaments on a collegiate level. They told another student, who contacted instructor Jason Campbell, who agreed to be a sponsor.

Campbell and his club members knew the cost of competitive fishing, but that didn't deter them. They worked diligently to conduct fundraisers and locate sponsors to defray expenses.

Their first tournament was at Alabama's Lake Martin, where Hunter Schrock and Russ Johnson beat 213 other sets of fishermen to win the Carhartt Bassmaster Challenge and a chance to

compete in the collegiate national championship. But the team had a few challenges of its own. The pair locked their truck and boat keys inside their vehicle and had to replace a trailer hub before its wheel fell off on the way to the lake. They couldn't use electronics on their boat because they were broken.

In March, Ty Cox took the top prize in Cabela's Collegiate Bass Bash on Kentucky Lake, which drew more than 430 anglers.

"I can tell you we've got a good group of guys," Campbell said of the club and its success. "They treat each other like brothers. It's a family. I'm just excited to be a part of something like this."





ICC ATHLETICS...



The 2015-16 year in athletics proved to be a successful one as Itawamba Community College stretched its streak to 12 straight seasons with at least one state or region championship when the women's basketball team claimed its third NJCAA Region 23 title in four seasons.

Football kicked off the successful year by advancing to the playoffs. The Indians finished 5-5 overall and 4-2 in division play. ICC dominated rival Northeast, 52-14, in Booneville to extend its win streak over the Tigers to six straight years.

Women's basketball continued its dominance under Coach Nanci Gray. The Lady Indians finished 23-7 and 10-2 in division play to earn Coach Gray's fifth North Division championship in 10 seasons as head coach. ICC avenged its loss in the MACJC State Championship game by defeating Co-Lin, 68-64, in the NJCAA Region 23 Championship game at Mississippi College.

The Lady Indians advanced to the NJCAA National Women's Tournament in Lubbock, Texas.

Softball continued to break records under head coach Andy Kirk. The program set a new record for most wins in a season with 39 and earned its highest-ever ranking by climbing to No. 7 in the NJCAA Division II Softball poll. In the first season with all 15 teams vying for a spot in the playoffs, the Indians finished third in the conference and swept Southwest to advance to the MACJC State Tournament. ICC finished 39-10 overall with eight of the 10 losses coming to teams ranked in the Top 10 and 22-6 in conference play.



Baseball made an amazing run moving from 14th in the conference with four weeks left in the regular season to earn the No. 7 spot in the league to advance to the playoffs. The Indians took No. 2 seed Meridian to the wire in the best-of-three series before the season came to an end. ICC finished 27-20 overall and 14-14 in conference play. During the season, Coach Rick

Collier earned his 452nd win as the head coach of the Indians and became the all-time winningest baseball coach at ICC.

In tennis we said goodbye to a staple in ICC athletics as Coach Paul Johnson coached his final season as head of the Lady Indians and Indians. Both squads advanced to the MACJC State Tournament with sophomore Madison Scott (Mooreville) winning the No. 4 Singles MACJC championship and No. 4 Singles NJCAA Region 23 championship.

Coach Johnson leaves ICC with 15 MACJC and 10 NJCAA Region tennis championships as head coach of both squads. He also coached the Indians to four MACJC runner-up finishes and nine NJCAA Region runner-up finishes while guiding the Lady Indians to three MACJC runnerup finishes and one NJCAA Region runner-up finish. Johnson was also a member of two MACJC titles in football and one in cross-country.



WHAT A YEAR

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